GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1188
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
MEDICAL COLLEGES/PHARMACY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTES
Verma Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Medical colleges /pharmacy management institutes functioning in the country;

(b) the number of girls /boys students enrolled in the above institutes and the number of SC/ST students out of them;

(c) whether all the above institutes are functioning as per all India test/UGC guidelines;

(d) if not, the policy the Government proposes to chalk out to maintain the educational standard in such vocational courses ; and

(e) the number of new institutes approved during the last academic session and the reasons due to which other such proposals were rejected?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a): At present there are 229 medical colleges functioning in the country. Similarly Pharmacy Council of India has approved 377 institutes for the conduct of D. Pharma course and 233 institutes for the conduct of B. Pharma course.

(b): No such data is being maintained by the Central Government as admission to medical/Pharmacy courses is governed by the respective State Government/University/Examining Authority/Institution subject to the provisions of the regulations of Medical Council of India and Pharmacy Council of India, as applicable. However, all medical/pharmacy institutes are required to follow the instructions of the Central/State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, as the case may be, issued from time to time for providing reservations to students belonging to SC/ST/OBCs. etc

(c)&(d): The Hon`ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 14.8.03 in the case of Islamic Academy of Education has clarified that the State Government may prescribe the percentage of seats in private professional colleges which can be filled by the management. The remaining seats are to be filled up as per merit through the common entrance test conducted by the state agency. The seats filled by the management are also to be filled up as per merit through a common entrance test to be conducted by the association of all colleges in the concerned State or in the absence of such association, by the common entrance conducted by the State Government. The Medical Council of India/Pharmacy Council of India grants approval to institutions only if the prescribed statutory requirements are complied with. Periodic inspections are also conducted by these professional Councils to ensure the compliance of prescribed norms.

(e): Clearance of proposal for opening of medical colleges/pharmacy institutes depends on availability of infrastructural facilities and fulfillment of qualifying criteria prescribed in the regulations of Medical Council of India and Pharmacy Council of India. In the year 2004, Central Government has granted permission for opening of 10 medical colleges. Similarly, during 2003-2004, the Pharmacy Council of India has approved 44 new institutions for the purpose of registration as a pharmacist.